

# STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

## Agenda Consideration

**TOPIC:** 2004-2005 Requests for Naming of  
Designated Areas Within School  
Facilities

**ITEM NO:** 13A

**PREPARED BY:** Denise Fruik  
Facilities/Demographics  
Planner

**MEETING:** July 13, 2004  
**ACTION DATE:** July 13, 2004

Scott Horan, Executive Director  
Planning & Construction

Andre' A. Nougaret  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Support Services

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**ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT:** That the School Board approve the 2004-2005 requests to name designated areas within school facilities.

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### KEY POINTS:

- On October 28, 2003 the School Board approved Guidelines for the Naming of Stafford County Public Schools.
- Guideline #7 states that "At their discretion, the Stafford County School Board may name any athletic field, special use facility or designated area within a school after a former Stafford County Schools employee or other person of historical importance who has made significant contributions to education in Stafford County." (*Guidelines attached*)
- T. Benton Gayle Middle School staff request approval to change the name of the school gymnasium from the Washington Gymnasium to the D. Winston Ward Gymnasium. Mr. Ward retired as the Principal of T. Benton Gayle Middle School on July 1, 2004 and has been part of the Gayle school community for three decades. (*Request attached*)
- Winding Creek Elementary staff request approval to name the school library after Sandy Freeby. Sandy Freeby was the first librarian at Winding Creek Elementary and was an extremely integral part of the school and community. Ms. Freeby died suddenly the first week of the 2003-2004 school year. (*Request attached*)
- The staff of the Head Start program request approval to rename the Gari Melchers Building in the Melchers Complex to the James O'Shaughnessy Building. Mr. O'Shaughnessy was the Executive Director of Planning and Construction for Stafford County Public Schools at the time of his passing in December 2003. He took a personal interest in acquiring adequate facilities for the county's Head Start program. Memorial funds will be used for building and door signage. (*Request attached*)

**SCHOOL BOARD GOAL: #5** - Provide facilities that promote student learning and community support.

**#6** - Introduce programs to enhance employee status, within the school division and the community at large, so that employees are aware of their value to school and community.

**FUNDING SOURCE:** N/A

**AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE:** Guidelines for the Naming of Stafford County Public Schools: approved 10/28/03

## GUIDELINES FOR THE NAMING OF STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1. When a new school site is purchased or a planning project for a new school is initiated, the school will be referred to by type (Elementary, Middle, High) and year of anticipated completion/opening.
2. Once a Principal is appointed for a new school, the Principal will become Chairman of a committee to name the new school.
3. The committee will include the Principal as Chairman, the School Board member for the district in which the new school will be located, the Supervisor for the district, and a representative of the Stafford Historical Society.
4. The committee will determine a preferred name for the school and one alternate name within forty-five days of the first meeting of the committee based on the following criteria:
  - Elementary schools will be named for the street on which the school faces, the historical or current name of the district or community in which the school is located or after a Stafford County resident of historical significance.
  - Middle Schools will be named for Stafford County Educators who have made significant contributions to Stafford County Schools.
  - High Schools will be named for the street on which the school faces or for the historical or current name of the district or community in which the school is located or after a Stafford County resident of historical significance.
5. School names are often strong symbols of identification for local communities. Therefore the committee should make community consultation an integral part of the naming process.
6. The preferred school name and the alternate school name will be brought before the School Board at the first meeting following the forty-five day committee term.
7. At their discretion, the Stafford County School Board may name any athletic field, special use facility or designated area within a school after a former Stafford County Schools employee or other person of historical importance who has made significant contributions to education in Stafford County.



**T. BENTON GAYLE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

100 PANTHER DRIVE  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22406

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540-373-0383  
FAX: 540-373-8856

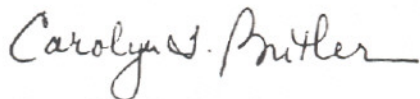
To the members of the Stafford County School Board:

On behalf of the faculty and staff of T. Benton Gayle Middle School, I would like to ask your consideration in the renaming of our gymnasium from the Washington Gym to the D. Winston Ward Gymnasium.

Winston Ward has been the heart of Gayle Middle School for the better part of the past three decades. His dedication and commitment to the students, staff and faculty of our school have been an inspiration. He has touched the lives of tens of thousands of members of our community. As a lasting tribute, we would like to keep Mr. Ward in our hearts and minds by naming our beautiful gymnasium in his honor. We believe that naming part of the school for him will keep him a part of his beloved Gayle.

I do represent the entire faculty and staff here at Gayle when I ask that you please consider our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carolyn T. Butler".

Carolyn T. Butler

cc: Andre Nougaret



## Stafford County Schools Head Start

610 Gayle Street  
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405  
(540) 368-2559  
fax: (540) 368-1978  
schs@staffordschools.net



TO: Members of the School Board  
Dr. Andre' Nougaret, Assistant Superintendent

FROM: Kathryn Massie, Supervisor of Head Start

DATE: June 9, 2004

RE: Request for renaming of Gari Melchers building in Melchers Complex

Stafford Head Start Policy Council is requesting that the School Board authorize the renaming of the Gari Melchers building in the Melchers Complex to the James O'Shaughnessy building. On December 10, 2003 Stafford Schools Head Start Policy Council unanimously voted to rename the Gari Melchers (GM) building in the Melchers Complex to the James O'Shaughnessy building for the following reasons:

- Jim O'Shaughnessy took a personal interest in acquiring adequate facilities for the county's Head Start program and went beyond the call of duty in assisting the program. Jim O'Shaughnessy worked very hard to support the Policy Council's goal of a larger facility. He took pictures of the overcrowded conditions and presented the information to the School Board, who saw the need and approved the move.
- For many months, Mr. O'Shaughnessy diligently worked to find appropriate cost cutting strategies to acquire the necessary architectural, engineering, and renovation work at a price the Head Start program could afford. He achieved quality renovation work for the program at almost half of the amount originally estimated.
- When the deadline for the encumbrance of the federal funds approached Mr. O'Shaughnessy made numerous phone calls and hand walked bids and other necessary documents between the county offices and the purchasing department. As a result, the required purchase orders were made in time to utilize federal funds.
- Jim O'Shaughnessy obviously kept the Head Start program goals close to his heart and shared them with his family, who decided that this program was the best memorial to him.
- The Stafford Schools Head Start Policy Council is very grateful for everything Jim O'Shaughnessy did for the program while he was alive, and are looking forward to continuing his legacy to Head Start with the donations being received in his memory and with the renaming of the GM building. Costs such as building and door signage will be covered with memorial funds.
- The GM building's name will not be lost, as the entire complex now bears Gari Melchers' name in appropriate recognition of a significant Stafford historical figure. Having one of the buildings bear the same name as the complex is actually confusing now.
- Stafford School Board did create new guidelines on October 28, 2003 that allow the naming of designated areas within a school after a former Stafford County employee who has made significant contributions to education in Stafford County. The Head Start Policy Council believes that James O'Shaughnessy's work fits that description.

Stafford Head Start Policy Council feels that this request is in support of School Board Goal 6: *Introduce programs to enhance employee status, within the school division and the community at large, so that employees are aware of their value to school and community.* Thanks for your consideration of this request.



# Winding Creek Elementary

475 Winding Creek Road  
Stafford, Virginia 22554-6805  
(540) 658-6400  
Fax (540) 658-6401

TO: DENISE FRUIK  
FACILITIES DEMOGRAPHIC PROGRAMER

FROM: BILL KENNEDY  
PRINCIPAL WINDING CREEK ELEMENTARY

RE: LIBRARY NAME CHANGE

DATE: MAY 10, 2004

I am requesting that you place an item on the School Board Agenda for the June 15 meeting. I am requesting that the School Board approve the naming of our school library after Sandy Freeby, our former Librarian, who died this past September. Sandy died suddenly the first week of school this year. She was the first Librarian of Winding Creek Elementary and was an extremely integral part of this school and community. She was involved in almost every aspect of this school from the very beginning and was a very important part of the Winding Creek family. We plan to honor Ms. Freeby with the naming of the Library and a memory garden at the beginning of the 2004 – 2005 school year.

cc. Dr. Murray

